

1A P16 Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 DEC 2005
#8

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Tommy LONG
Appln No.: 10/510,647 ✓
Filed: October 8, 2004 as a 35 U.S.C. 371
National Stage Application, based on
PCT/US03/10857 filed April 9, 2003.

TC/AU: TBD
Examiner: TBD.
Atty. Docket No.: CM-020

FURTHER RESPONSE TO
PETITION AND NOTICE OF
MISSING PARTS

**For: VEHICLE DRIVE SYSTEM WITH
ENERGY RECOVERY SYSTEM AND
VEHICLE MOUNTING SAME**

Customer No:

34253

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

7 FEB 2006

Legal Staff
International Division

Dear Sir(s):

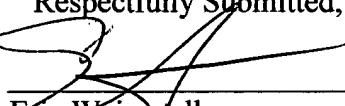
Further to the response to Assignee's petition dated November 8, 2005 and setting a response date two months from the date of mailing, Assignee has, after significant and protracted effort, obtained the signature of the Inventor and hereby submits the executed declaration and power of attorney for the above identified case.

Attorney Docket Number: CM-020
Application No: TBD

As this response is made in a timely manner following the date for response set in the above noted petition, Applicant believes no additional fees are due with this response. However, if an extension of time is required or if a greater or lesser fee(s) should be due or a credit be due in this case, Applicant's respectfully apply for such extension and authorized the Commissioner or his representatives to charge or credit deposit account no. 50-3461 and request that they please notify the undersigned accordingly. Should the USPTO Staff or the Examiner believe a teleconference would advance the prosecution of the application, they are encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

Date: Dec. 27, 2005

Respectfully Submitted,


Eric Weiersfall
Registration No. 46, 331
1201 PENNSYLVANIA AVE
SUITE 300
Washington, D.C. 20004
Telephone: (202) 661-4610
Telefax: (202) 661-4699



08 NOV 2005

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

Eric Weierstall
Tangent Law Group
1201 Pennsylvania Avenue
Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20004

In re Application of
LONG
U.S. Application No.: 10/510,647
PCT No.: PCT/US03/10857
Int. Filing Date: 09 April 2003
Priority Date: 10 April 2002
Attorney Docket No.: CM-020
For: VEHICLE DRIVE SYSTEM WITH ENERGY
RECOVERY SYSTEM AND VEHICLE
MOUNTING SAME

**DECISION ON PETITION
UNDER 37 CFR 1.47(b)**

This decision is in response to the applicant's "Petition Under 37 CFR 3.47 With Declaration And Fees" filed 26 August 2005 in the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). For the reasons discussed below, the petition is being treated as a petition under 37 CFR 1.47(b) to accept the application without the signature of inventor Thomas Long.

BACKGROUND

On 09 April 2003, applicant filed international application PCT/US03/10857 which claimed priority to an earlier U.S. application filed 10 April 2002. Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.495, the deadline for paying the full, U.S. Basic National Fee was set to expire at midnight on 10 October 2004.

On 08 October 2004, applicant filed a transmittal letter for entry into the national stage in the United States which was accompanied by the requisite basic national fee as required by 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1) and a First preliminary amendment.

On 27 June 2005, applicant was mailed a "Notification of Missing Requirements" (Form PCT/DO/EO/905) informing applicant that an executed oath or declaration of the inventor in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497(a)-(b) was required. Applicant was afforded two months to file the required response and advised that this period could be extended pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a).

On 26 August 2005, applicant filed the present petition under 37 CFR 1.47(b).

DISCUSSION

A petition under 37 CFR 1.47(b) must be accompanied by: (1) the requisite petition fee under 37 CFR 1.17(g); (2) factual proof that the inventor refuses to execute the application or cannot be reached after diligent effort; (3) a statement of the last known address of the non-signing inventor; (4) an oath or declaration executed by the 37 CFR 1.47(b) applicant on behalf of and as an agent for the non-signing inventor; (5) proof of proprietary interest in the application; and, (6) a showing that such action is necessary to preserve the rights of the parties or to prevent irreparable damages. Therefore, a review of the papers provided finds that applicant has satisfied items (1), (3) and (4).

As to item (2), Section 409.03(d) of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) states, in part:

Where inability to find or reach a nonsigning inventor "after diligent effort" is the reason for filing under 37 CFR 1.47, an affidavit or declaration of facts should be submitted that fully describes the exact facts which are relied on to establish that a diligent effort was made.

The fact that a nonsigning inventor is on vacation or out of town and is therefore temporarily unavailable to sign the declaration is not an acceptable reason for filing under 37 CFR 1.47. Such a petition will be dismissed as inappropriate.

The affidavit or declaration of facts must be signed, where at all possible, by a person having firsthand knowledge of the facts recited therein. Statements based on hearsay will not normally be accepted. Copies of documentary evidence such as certified mail return receipt, cover letter of instructions, telegrams, etc., that support a finding that the nonsigning inventor could not be found or reached should be made part of the affidavit or declaration. It is important that the affidavit or declaration contain statements of fact as opposed to conclusions.

Presently, applicant has provided a statement from counsel that the "The assignee avers that it has, through its President Michael Fowler, taken and exhausted all diligent efforts to locate and obtain the signature of the inventor on the attached declaration. That the inventor is unavailable at this time." In order to proceed without Mr. Long's signature on the declaration, applicant is required to provide detailed information as to the "diligent effort" such as whether a search of telephone directories or Internet search engines were performed in an attempt to find a current address for the inventor, as well as, the circumstances of his unavailability. As shown, above this information should be provided by an individual with firsthand knowledge of the attempts to locate Mr. Long.

Regarding item (5), applicant's present petition references the inclusion of a copy of the relevant assignment document, however the paper was not included nor does a copy exist in the application file.

As to item (6), applicant states that failure to grant the petition will, "cause extreme hardship to the assignee and the inventor in the loss of patent rights in the above identified application." In order to satisfy item (6), applicant is also required to state that damage caused, i.e. the extreme hardship, would be irreparable.

For the reasons stated above, it is not possible to grant applicant's petition at this time.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, applicant's petition under 37 CFR 1.47(b) is **DISMISSED without prejudice**.

Any reconsideration on the merits of this petition must be filed within **TWO (2) MONTHS** from the mail date of this decision. Any reconsideration request should include a cover letter entitled "Renewed Petition Under 37 CFR 1.47(b)." Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any further correspondence with respect to this matter should be directed to Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, Office of PCT Legal Administration, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, with the contents of the letter marked to the attention of the Office of PCT Legal Administration.



Derek A. Putonen
Attorney Advisor
Office of PCT Legal Administration
Tel: (571) 272-3294
Fax: (571) 273-0459



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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www.uspto.gov

| U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. | FIRST NAMED APPLICANT | ATTY. DOCKET NO. |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 10/510,647 | Thomas Long | CM-020 |

34253
TANGENT LAW GROUP
1201 PENNSYLVANIA AVE, NW
SUITE 300
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

| INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| PCT/US03/10857 | |
| LA. FILING DATE | PRIORITY DATE |
| 04/08/2004 | 04/10/2002 |

CONFIRMATION NO. 3918
371 FORMALITIES LETTER



OC00000016381117

Date Mailed: 06/27/2005

NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

The following items have been submitted by the applicant or the IB to the United States Patent and Trademark Office as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495).

- Indication of Small Entity Status
- Copy of the International Application filed on 10/08/2004
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 10/08/2004
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 10/08/2004
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 10/08/2004
- Priority Documents filed on 10/08/2004

The applicant needs to satisfy supplemental fees problems indicated below.

The following items **MUST** be furnished within the period set forth below in order to complete the requirements for acceptance under 35 U.S.C. 371:

- Additional claim fees of \$25 as a small entity, including any required multiple dependent claim fee, are required. Applicant must submit the additional claim fees or cancel the additional claims for which fees are due.
- Oath or declaration of the inventors, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497(a) and (b), identifying the application by the International application number and international filing date.
- \$65 Surcharge for providing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)) is required.

SUMMARY OF FEES DUE:

Total additional fees required for this application is **\$90** for a Small Entity:

- \$65 Late oath or declaration Surcharge.
- Total additional claim fee(s) for this application is \$ 25
 - \$25 for 5 total claims over 20.

ALL OF THE ITEMS SET FORTH ABOVE MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN TWO (2) MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR BY 32 MONTHS FROM THE PRIORITY DATE FOR THE APPLICATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER. FAILURE TO PROPERLY RESPOND WILL RESULT IN ABANDONMENT.

The time period set above may be extended by filing a petition and fee for extension of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the response.

CHARITTA A BURT

Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 207

PART 2 - OFFICE COPY

| U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. | ATTY. DOCKET NO. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 10/510,647 | PCT/US03/10857 | CM-020 |

FORM PCT/DO/EO/905 (371 Formalities Notice)